IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

TEAMSTERS HEALTH AND **CIVIL ACTION** :

WELFARE FUND, PHILADELPHIA

AND VICINITY, et al

Plaintiffs

NO. 02-4639

 \mathbf{v}_{ullet} :

NET CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Defendant

and :

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Garnishee

ANSWERS TO INTERROGATORIES IN ATTACHMENT

The Garnishee, City of Philadelphia ("City"), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby responds as follows to the Interrogatories in Attachment.

- Yes, but any amounts owed are subject to set off for back taxes by the City as well as claims by the sureties RLI Insurance Company ("RLI") and National Surety Company on the specific contracts.
- a) Final payments of \$2,442.48 and \$17,291.35 owed on contract bid Numbers 2. 2362 and 2547 respectively, subject to set off for back taxes as well as claim by RLI on contract bid number 2547.
 - b) N/A
- 3. No.
- 4. N/A
- 5. No.
- 6. N/A
- 7. No.

- 8. N/A
- 9. No.
- 10. N/A
- 11. No.
- N/A 12.

The City also asserts the following Affirmative Defenses incorporated herein by reference.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES OF GARNISHEE

- 1. Net Construction, Inc. ("Net") entered into contracts with the City of Philadelphia ("City") to provide services on or about October 12, 2001 (contract bid No. 2547) and April 14, 2000 (contract bid No. 2362).
- Under 53 P.S. § § 16081, 16082 and 16083 ("Statute") the City may withhold 2. payment of claim because such person owes taxes to the City.
- Net Construction, Inc. completed both contracts, however, a hold was placed on payments to Net by the Department of Revenue due to Net's outstanding self-assessed tax obligations.
- 4. The City placed holds on payments otherwise due Net in the amount of \$17,241.35 under contract bid number 2547 and \$2,442.48 under contract bid number 2362.
- 5. The Department of Revenue also audited and assessed Net for additional taxes in the amount of \$691,462.00 plus interest and penalties which continue to accrue pursuant to Section 19-509 of The Philadelphia Code after Net failed to respond to the audit notices.
- Net has failed to pay the self-assessed taxes, appeal the audit assessment or 6. otherwise dispute and/or resolve the tax delinquencies (see attached printout from the Department of Revenue of Net's tax liabilities as of April 30, 2004, as Exhibit "A").
- Pursuant to the Statute as well as the prevailing case law regarding a creditor's right to set-off, the City asserts its right to set off the outstanding tax liability by the amounts otherwise owed to Net. See Pittsburg National Bank v. United States, 657 F.2d 36 (1981) and United States v. Munsey Trust Co. of Washington, D.C., 332 U.S. 234, 67 S.Ct. 1599 (1947).

- 8. Additionally, RLI, the surety for contract bid number 2547 has laid a claim to the amounts that the City is holding to set off its tax obligation.
- 9. The City asserts that its set off rights are superior to the rights of RLI, (See <u>United States v. Munsey Trust Co. of Washington, D.C.</u>, 332 U.S. 234, 67 S.Ct. 1599 (1947)).
- 10. Due to this action, the City is holding funds that are subject to competing claims.
- 11. The City asserts that RLI is an indispensable party to the determination of this garnishment action.

Wherefore, the City respectively requests that this court dismiss this action based on the City's right of set off or, in the alternative, make a determination as to whether the funds should be paid to RLI (the surety), the Plaintiff or the City.

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA LAW DEPARTMENT

PEDRO A. RAMOS City Solicitor

Dated May 3, 2004

MARISSA M. O'CONNELL Deputy City Solicitor City of Philadelphia Law Department 1515 Arch Street, 15th Floor Philadelphia, Pa. 19102 (215) 683-5312 Attorney I.D. No. 66629

LANA177 T015		TIPS ACCOUNTING SYSTEM ACCOUNT LIABILITY			04/30/04 14:29:02	
ENTITY: EIN / 232 ACCOUNT : WAG ACCOUNT ID : 655	ADDRESS:	ADDRESS: 1130 CHURCH RD				
I&P CALC DATE: 04	/30/2004	PERIOD START	DATE:			
PERIOD P WAG 6555	PRINCIPAL INTERES	T PENALTY	OTHER	TOTAL	STATUS	
_ 12311999M	.6386.00 10159.32 .4981.00 7640.31 .5583.00 4209.26 .88285.00 10336.95 .88019.00 5702.85 .3254.00 38048.69 .9351.00 265430.93	15157.05 11797.53 8638.90 18663.94 12831.42 67088.84 444226.34		41702.37 34418.84 18431.16 67285.89 56553.27 218391.53 1289008.27	CASE CASE CASE CASE CASE	

MORE:

PF1=HELP PF5=ACCT-DETAIL PF7=BACKWARD PF8=FORWARD PF12=MENU

NO MORE RECORDS FOR THIS VIEW

LANA177 T015		TIPS ACCOUNTING SYSTEM ACCOUNT LIABILITY			04/30/04 14:29:00	
ENTITY: EIN / ACCOUNT : ACCOUNT ID : I&P CALC DATE		ADDRESS:	NET CONSTRU 1130 CHURCH PRIVILEGE PERIOD STAR	RD		
PERIOD BPT	PRINCIPAL 6555551	INTEREST	PENALTY	OTHER	TOTAL	STATUS
12311995Y NON-FILER						CASE
- 12311997Y	MON LIBBI	1305.15	2021.25		3326.40	RECON
- 12311999Y	135600.00	82716.00	123735.00		342051.00	CASE
- 12312000Y	140762.00	69893.87	109109.26		319765.13	CASE
12312001Y	129411.00	48552.34	80738.83		258702.17	CASE
- 04152002Y		17072.76	42681.90		59754.66	
- 12312002Y	30162.00	3921.06	9425.63		43508.69	CASE
_ 04152003Y	30162.00	3921.06	9425.63		43508.69	CASE
TOTAL	466097.00	227382.24	377137.50		1070616.74	
PF1=HELP	PF5=ACCT-DETA	AIL PF7=B.	ACKWARD	PF8=FORWARD	MC PF12=ME	RE: Y NU

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Exhibit "A"

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that service of a true and correct copy of the attached Answers To Interrogatories In Attachment was made on the 3rd day of May, 2004, to the following by mailing the same in a postage-paid envelope addressed as follows:

> Susan A. Murray, Esquire Neal Goldstein, Esquire FREEDMAN AND LORRY, P.C. 400 Market Street, Suite 900 Philadelphia, PA 19106 (215) 931-2506

> > MARISSA M. O'CONNELL, ESQUIRE **Deputy City Solicitor** City of Philadelphia, Law Department 1515 Arch Street, 15th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 683-5212

Attorney I.D. Number: 66629